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MM93-48

Date: 1-16-96

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of my child advocacy organization, I am writing to encourage you to strengthen the guidelines for the Children's Television Act of 1990 (MM No. 93-48).

Broadcast television can play an unprecedented role in nourishing the minds of our nation's children. In the Commission's own words: "There are many imaginative and exciting ways in which the medium can be used to further a child's understanding of a wide range of areas: history, science, literature, the environment, drama, music, fine arts, human relations, other cultures and languages, and basic skills such as reading and mathematics which are crucial to a child's development." (1974 FCC Policy Statement)

Broadcasters have the talent to create children's programs which are as educational as they are entertaining. Yet, today's children have greater access to sensationalistic talk shows, violent cartoons, and adult sitcoms that they do to programming designed to enrich their minds.

The FCC needs to strengthen the guidelines for the Children's Television Act by establishing real policies designed to safeguard the interests of our children. These should include a clearer definition of "educational" programming and a requirement that television stations air at least one hour a day of 30-minute educational shows between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. in regularly scheduled time slots.

No other regulatory body is in a position to make this happen. Please...America's children are counting on you.

Sincerely,

Gloria Goldfaden
(Signature)

Gloria Goldfaden
Name (Printed)

Executive Director
Title

People Against
Organization
Child Abuse
Inc.

125 Cathedral St.
My organization's street address

Annapolis, MD 21401
City/State/Zip

410-269-7816
Phone

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People Against Abuse is a national organization of individuals who are concerned about child abuse.

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and those incidents are
of the following
types:

- 1. Physical Abuse
- 2. Sexual Abuse
- 3. Emotional Abuse
- 4. Neglect
- 5. Child Marriage
- 6. Child Labor
- 7. Child Prostitution
- 8. Child Soldiers
- 9. Child Trafficking
- 10. Child Exploitation

For more information, contact:



A Chapter of the National Committee
for Prevention of Child Abuse

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GROWING THINGS ARE FRAGILE.
GROWING CHILDREN ARE TWICE FRAGILE,
IN BODY AND SPIRIT.

CHILD ABUSE HARMS MORE THAN THE BODY.
IT DISTORTS THE GROWTH OF THE SPIRIT.

AN ACT OF CHILD ABUSE RESONATES
INTO THE FUTURE.
IT VIOLATES POTENTIAL, CRIPPLES HOPE,
SANCTIONS BITTERNESS.

GROWING CHILDREN ARE FRAGILE.
OUR TASK IS TO NURTURE THEM.

REPRINTED FROM TIME MAGAZINE



PEOPLE AGAINST CHILD ABUSE
A Chapter of the National Committee
for Prevention of Child Abuse

• *ARE THERE ABUSED CHILDREN IN MY COMMUNITY?*

Abused children are everywhere. You can find them in every part of the state. In every city and town.

Even in your neighborhood.

They come from rich families and poor — and every type of background in between. They're white, black, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American. Child abuse is an equal opportunity problem.

Child abuse strikes at least 1 out of every 4 children in Maryland. Think about the girls and boys you know. Could one of them be a victim of abuse?

• *WHO IS PROTECTING THE CHILDREN?*

People Against Child Abuse (PACA) is working to keep our kids from ever becoming victims.

Research shows that prevention is the best way to protect kids from abuse in all its forms — physical, sexual, emotional, and neglect.

With your help, we can make sure that child abuse is stopped — before it happens.

• *WHAT DOES PACA DO?*

A lot.

As the state chapter of the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, PACA works with state and local officials to develop laws and programs that protect more children from abuse.

Each year, we train thousands of volunteers and professionals to fight abuse.

We offer guidance and information to communities and groups starting their own prevention programs. We also help people in need find parenting courses, mental health therapists, support groups, medical and legal aid, and abuse treatment centers.

PACA is reaching out to young people through RAP and Healthy Families. These innovative programs work with younger children to protect them from abuse, and with adolescent parents and other young adults to help them cope with the demands of raising a child of their own.



Photography by Karen Myers

• *WHO BELONGS TO PACA?*

Our members include social workers, therapists, doctors, lawyers, probation officers, teachers, clergy, and people like you who care about children.

Groups and organizations in both the private and public sectors also belong to PACA.

Together, we provide services and programs needed to prevent child abuse — and to treat and stop abuse when it does happen.

• *WHERE IS PACA?*

Over a thousand participating individuals, agencies, and organizations are actively involved in PACA. And there are Child Abuse Prevention Volunteers around the state — to guide you to the services or programs you might need.

• *HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT PACA?*

Write to PACA at: 125 Cathedral Street, 2nd Floor, Annapolis, MD 21401. You may also call us at 410-269-7816 or 800-422-3055. Our speakers are also available to talk to your group.

• *WHO CAN HELP PACA PREVENT ABUSE?*

You can. Volunteer to help the Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator in your county. Report any cases of suspected abuse to your local Child Protective Service office. Lend a helping hand to parents under stress. And remember that your contribution will also help us make Maryland a safer place for all children.